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## NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

53184 7590 07/15/2009

i2 TECHNOLOGIES US, INC.  
ONE i2 PLACE, 11701 LUNA ROAD  
DALLAS, TX 75234

EXAMINER

CHEUNG, MARY DA ZHI WANG

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3694

DATE MAILED: 07/15/2009

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/945,297

08/31/2001

Manoel Tenorio

020431.0922

2037

TITLE OF INVENTION: LOCALLY GENERATING PRICE QUOTES USING ONE OR MORE PRICING TOOLS RECEIVED FROM A SELLER

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$0	\$0	\$1510	10/15/2009

**THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.**

**THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.**

### HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

#### I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.**

# **PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL**

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P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
or Fax (571)-273-2885**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

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Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

53184 7590 07/15/2009

**i2 TECHNOLOGIES US, INC.**  
**ONE i2 PLACE, 11701 LUNA ROAD**  
**DALLAS, TX 75234**

## **Certificate of Mailing or Transmission**

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/945,297	08/31/2001	Manoel Tenorio	020431.0922	2037

**TITLE OF INVENTION: LOCALLY GENERATING PRICE QUOTES USING ONE OR MORE PRICING TOOLS RECEIVED FROM A SELLER**

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$0	\$0	\$1510	10/15/2009

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
CHEUNG, MARY DA ZHI WANG	3694	705-035000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
- ☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
- ☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
- ☐ Advance Order - # of Copies \_\_\_\_\_

4b. Payment of Fee(s); (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. **Change in Entity Status** (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

**NOTE:** The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Typed or printed name \_\_\_\_\_

Registration No. \_\_\_\_\_

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.**

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/945,297	08/31/2001	Manoel Tenorio	020431.0922	2037
53184	7590	07/15/2009	EXAMINER	
i2 TECHNOLOGIES US, INC. ONE i2 PLACE, 11701 LUNA ROAD DALLAS, TX 75234			CHEUNG, MARY DA ZHI WANG	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3694	
DATE MAILED: 07/15/2009				

## Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 1520 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 1520 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/945,297	TENORIO, MANOEL	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	MARY CHEUNG	3694	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/29/2009.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 29-54.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.

**Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date ____</li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date ____.</li> <li>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ____.</li> </ol> |
|---|---|

/Mary Cheung/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3694

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Steven Laureanti on July 13, 2009.
3. The application has been amended as follows:

1-28. **(Canceled)**

29. **(Currently Amended)** A computer-implemented system comprising a ~~server associated with a buying group for locally generating price quotes, the buying group comprising two or more buyers buying items as a single buying entity, the server associated with the buyer configured to:~~ comprising:

a plurality of buyer computers coupled with a plurality of sellers via a network, each of the plurality of buyer computers comprising a database and a server, wherein a buyer associated with the plurality of buyer computers comprises a buying group comprising two or more buyers buying items as a single buying entity, each server configured to:

receive a plurality of pricing tools from ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of sellers, each pricing tool configured to generate price quotes for at least one corresponding seller;

locally store the pricing tools received from the plurality of sellers such that the pricing tools are locally accessible to the server associated with the buying group;

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access a request for quote (RFQ) specifying an order comprising quantities of one or more items, the RFQ requesting one or more price quotes for the order;

communicate the RFQ to the locally accessible pricing tools;

using the locally accessible pricing tools received from the plurality of sellers, locally generate one or more price quotes for the order;

provide the locally generated price quotes for the order for possible further action by the buying group;

make one or more modifications to the order specified in the RFQ, the modifications being made based on the price quote for the order generated using the locally accessible pricing tools received from the plurality of sellers;

using the locally accessible pricing tools received from the plurality of sellers, locally generate one or more price quotes for the modified order, provide the locally generated price quotes for the modified order for possible further action by the buyer;

iteratively modify the order and locally generate corresponding price quotes to optimize sourcing for the buying group; and

receive a pricing tool update for a particular locally accessible pricing tool, the pricing tool update reflecting one or more price changes for at least one seller, and update the particular locally accessible pricing tool according to the received pricing tool update.

30. **(Previously Presented)** A computer-implemented system for locally generating price quotes, the system comprising:

a plurality of buyer computers coupled with a plurality of sellers via a network, each of the plurality of buyer computers comprising a database and a server, each server configured to:

receive one or more pricing tools from one or more of the plurality of sellers, the one or more pricing tools configured to generate one or more price quotes for one or more corresponding plurality of sellers;

locally store the one or more pricing tools received from one or more of the plurality of sellers in the database coupled with each of the plurality of buyer computers, such that the one or more pricing tools are locally accessible to the server coupled with each of the plurality of buyer computers;

access a request for quote (RFQ) specifying an order comprising quantities of one or more items, the RFQ requesting a price quote for the order;

communicate the RFQ to the locally accessible one or more pricing tools stored in the database;

using the locally accessible one or more pricing tools received from one or more of the plurality of sellers, locally generate, at the corresponding buyer computer, one or more price quotes for the order; and

provide the locally generated one or more price quotes for the order for possible further action by the corresponding buyer computer.

31. **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 30, wherein the one or more pricing tools are encrypted to prevent the one or more pricing tools from being used to determine how price quotes are calculated.

32. **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 30, wherein a buyer associated with the plurality of buyer computers comprises a buying group comprising two or more buyers buying items as a single buying entity.

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33. **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 30, wherein the server is further configured to:

receive a pricing tool update from a seller, the pricing tool update reflecting one or more price changes for the seller; and

update the locally accessible one or more pricing tools according to the received pricing tool update.

34. **(Currently Amended)** The system of Claim 30, wherein the server is further configured to:

make one or more modifications to the order specified in the RFQ, the modifications being made based on the price quote for the order generated using the locally accessible one or more pricing tools received from [[the]] one or more of the plurality of sellers;

using the locally accessible one or more pricing tools received from [[the]] one or more of the plurality of sellers, locally generate a price quote for the modified order, and provide the locally generated price quote for the modified order for possible further action by the corresponding buyer computer.

35. **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 34, wherein the one or more modifications to the order are made automatically by the server coupled with each of the plurality of buyer computers based on the locally generated price quote for the order.

36. **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 35, wherein the server is configured to iteratively modify the order and locally generate corresponding price quotes to optimize sourcing for the corresponding buyer computer.



37. **(Currently Amended)** The system of Claim 30, wherein the server is configured to locally generate the price quote independent of communication with [[the]] one or more of the plurality of sellers subsequent to receiving the one or more pricing tools from [[the]] one or more of the plurality of sellers.

38. **(Currently Amended)** A computer-implemented method for locally generating price quotes, comprising:

~~receiving~~ receiving, by a server, one or more pricing tools from one or more of a plurality of ~~sellers,~~ sellers coupled with a plurality of buyer computers, each of the plurality of buyer computers comprising a database and a server, the one or more pricing tools received by the server and configured to generate one or more price quotes for one or more corresponding plurality of sellers;

locally storing, by the server, the one or more pricing tools received from one or more of the plurality of sellers in [[a]] the database coupled with each of [[a]] the plurality of buyer computers, such that the one or more pricing tools are locally accessible to the ~~server coupled with the plurality of buyer computers;~~ server;

accessing, by the server, a request for quote (RFQ) specifying an order comprising quantities of one or more items, the RFQ requesting a price quote for the order;

communicating, by the server, the RFQ to the locally accessible one or more pricing tools stored in the database;

using the locally accessible one or more pricing tools received from one or more of the plurality of sellers, locally generating, by the server, at the corresponding buyer computer, one or more price quotes for the order; and

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providing, by the server, the locally generated one or more price quotes for the order for possible further action by the corresponding buyer computer.

39. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 38, wherein the one or more pricing tools are encrypted to prevent the one or more pricing tools from being used to determine how price quotes are calculated.

40. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 38, wherein a buyer associated with the plurality of buyer computers comprises a buying group comprising two or more buyers buying items as a single buying entity.

41. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 38, further comprising:  
receiving a pricing tool update from a seller, the pricing tool update reflecting one or more price changes for the seller; and  
updating the locally accessible one or more pricing tools according to the received pricing tool update.

42. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 38, further comprising:  
making one or more modifications to the order specified in the RFQ, the modifications being made based on the price quote for the order generated using the locally accessible one or more pricing tools received from [[the]] one or more of the plurality of sellers;  
using the locally accessible one or more pricing tools received from [[the]] one or more of the plurality of sellers, locally generating a price quote for the modified order, and providing the locally generated price quote for the modified order for possible further action by the corresponding buyer computer.

43. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 42, wherein the one or more modifications to the order are made automatically based on the locally generated price quote for the order.

44. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 43, further comprising iteratively modifying the order and locally generating corresponding price quotes to optimize sourcing for the corresponding buyer computer.

45. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 38, wherein locally generating the price quote comprises generating the price quote independent of communication with ~~[[the]]~~ one or more of the plurality of sellers subsequent to receiving the one or more pricing tools from ~~[[the]]~~ one or more of the plurality of sellers.

46. **(Currently Amended)** Software associated with a plurality of buyer computers for locally generating price quotes, the software embodied in a computer-readable medium and when executed using one or more computers is configured to:

receive one or more pricing tools from one or more of a plurality of ~~sellers~~, sellers coupled with a plurality of buyer computers, each of the plurality of buyer computers comprising a database and a server, the one or more pricing tools configured to generate one or more price quotes for one or more corresponding plurality of sellers;

locally store the one or more pricing tools received from one or more of the plurality of sellers in the database, ~~a database coupled with the plurality of buyer computers~~, such that the one or more pricing tools are locally accessible to the software associated with the buyer computer;

access a request for quote (RFQ) specifying an order comprising quantities of one or more items, the RFQ requesting a price quote for the order;

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communicate the RFQ to the locally accessible one or more pricing tools stored in the database;

using the locally accessible one or more pricing tools received from one or more of the plurality of sellers, locally generate, at the corresponding buyer computer, one or more price quotes for the order; and

provide the locally generated one or more price quotes for the order for possible further action by the corresponding buyer computer.

47. **(Previously Presented)** The software of Claim 46, wherein the one or more pricing tools are encrypted to prevent the one or more pricing tools from being used to determine how price quotes are calculated.

48. **(Previously Presented)** The software of Claim 46, wherein a buyer associated with the plurality of buyer computers comprises a buying group comprising two or more buyers buying items as a single buying entity.

49. **(Previously Presented)** The software of Claim 46, further configured to:  
receive a pricing tool update from a seller, the pricing tool update reflecting one or more price changes for the seller; and  
update the locally accessible one or more pricing tools according to the received pricing tool update.

50. **(Currently Amended)** The software of Claim 46, further configured to:  
make one or more modifications to the order specified in the RFQ, the modifications being made based on the price quote for the order generated using the

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locally accessible one or more pricing tools received from ~~[[the]]~~ one or more of the plurality of sellers;

using the locally accessible one or more pricing tools received from ~~[[the]]~~ one or more of the plurality of sellers, locally generate a price quote for the modified order, and provide the locally generated price quote for the modified order for possible further action by the corresponding buyer computer.

51. **(Previously Presented)** The software of Claim 50, wherein the one or more modifications to the order are made automatically by a server coupled with the plurality of buyer computers based on the locally generated price quote for the order.

52. **(Previously Presented)** The software of Claim 51, further configured to iteratively modify the order and locally generate corresponding price quotes to optimize sourcing for the corresponding buyer computer.

53. **(Currently Amended)** The software of Claim 46, further configured to locally generate the price quote independent of communication with ~~[[the]]~~ one or more of the plurality of sellers subsequent to receiving the one or more pricing tools from ~~[[the]]~~ one or more of the plurality of sellers.

54. **(Currently Amended)** A computer-implemented system ~~associated with a plurality of buyer computers~~ for locally generating price quotes, comprising:

a plurality of buyer computers coupled with a plurality of sellers via a network, each of the plurality of buyer computers comprising a database and a server, each server comprising:

means for receiving one or more pricing tools from one or more of [[a]] the plurality of sellers, the one or more pricing tools configured to generate one or more price quotes for one or more corresponding plurality of sellers;

means for locally storing the one or more pricing tools received from one or more of the plurality of sellers in [[a]] the database coupled with [[a]] each of the plurality of buyer computers, such that the one or more pricing tools are locally accessible to [[a]] the server coupled with each of the plurality of buyer computers;

means for accessing a request for quote (RFQ) specifying an order comprising quantities of one or more items, the RFQ requesting a price quote for the order;

means for communicating the RFQ to the locally accessible one or more pricing tools stored in the database;

means for locally generating, at the corresponding buyer computer, one or more price quotes for the order using the locally accessible one or more pricing tools received from one or more of the plurality of sellers; and

means for providing the locally generated one or more price quotes for the order for possible further action by the corresponding buyer computer.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 29-54 are pending and allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art of Haji (US 2002/0035511 A1) teaches a web page transmission section transmits a web page with a quotation calculation program added from a server. A data reception section receives a quotation calculation result. When

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an analysis section determines that the quotation calculation result is valid, a quotation issuing section issues a formal quotation.

In regarding to independent claims 29-30, 38, 46 and 54, Haji taken either individually or in combination with other prior art of record fails to teach or render obvious locally generating price quotes comprising a plurality of buyer computers coupled with a plurality of sellers via a network, each of the plurality of buyer computers comprising a database and a server as claimed by the applicant.

**6.** Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Inquire***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mary Cheung whose telephone number is (571)-272-6705. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Thursday from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell, can be reached on (571) 272-6712.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceedings is assigned are as follows:

(571) 273-8300      (Official Communications; including After Final  
Communications labeled "BOX AF")

(571) 273-6705      (Draft Communications)

/Mary Cheung/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3694  
July 14, 2009